and Development proposal from Italy regarding transport technology of coal;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal including its techno-economic features, validity and implications in terms of Indian mining conditions;

(c) what are the details of the assessment made and decision taken thereon; and

(d) whether Government consider appointing Expert Committee to streamline marketing and transport system of Coal India Limited?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c) In 1987 an Italian company had made an offer to Coal India Limited regarding preparation of a feasibility report on High Concentration Coal Slurry Transportation Technology. This study envisaged techno-economic evaluation to assess the applicability of patented coal-water slurry technology to Indian coals and to identity and optimise a commercially integrated system for pipeline transportation and direct combustion of slurry. On examination of various related aspects of the offer the Standing Scientific Research Committee (SSRC) of the Ministry of Coal decided not to pursue this study.

(d) As of now there is no proposal for appointing an Expert Committee to streamline marketing and transport system of Coal India Limited.

साउथ ईस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लि० के अधीन एक अस्पताल का निर्माण

1487. **श्री अजीत जोगी** : क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या साउथ ईस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लि० (एस०ई०सी०एल०) बिलासपुर के अधीन किसी स्थान पर सभी सुविधाओं से युक्त एक बड़े अस्पताल के निर्माण का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसे अस्पताल का किस स्थान पर निर्माण किए जाने की संभावना है ?

कोयला मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री एस० बी० नयमेगौडा) : (क) और (ख) साउथ ईस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लि० द्वारा बिलासपुर में सिगयाडीह के स्थान पर एक बहु-विशेषताओं की सुविधा से सुसज्जित 200 बिस्तर वाले अस्पताल का निर्माण किए जाने का प्रस्ताव है ।

Setting up of coal washeries in private sector for Government mines

1488. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cleared a proposal to allow the private sector to set up coal washeries for Government mines;

(b) if so, the details of the private sector companies which have shown interest for coal washeries in Government mines;

(c) whether the private washeries have been allowed to sell coal directly to the consumers; and

(d) if so, to what extent the consumers would be benefited?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) The Central Government have decided to permit private sector participation in coal mining for the purpose of captive consumption for power generation and other end uses as may be notified from time to time, and also in setting up of coal washeries.

A Bill has been introduced in Parliament to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 in order to implement the above decision of the Government.

(b) 1. M/s. B. L. Agarwala & Sons Pvt. Limited, Bombay.

2. Nirmal Agarwal, Dhanbad.

3. Industries & Commerce Association, Dhanbad.

4. M/s. RPG Industries Limited, New Delhi.

5. Sekhar Iron Works Private Limited. have evinced interest in setting up of coal washeries.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Production of coal

1489. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total production of coal during 1991-92 in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Coal India Limited production and profits have gone up during the period; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): The production of coal in the country during 1991-92 was 229.29 million tonnes (prov.).

(b) and (c) Coal production of Coal India Limited during 1991-92 was 204.15 million tonnes (prov.) compared to 189.4 million tonnes during the year 1990-91, registering a growth of 7.65 per cent. Since the accounts for the year 1991-92 have not been finalised, the figure of profit earned by Coal India Limited is not available.

Difficulties caused by Cash and Carry Scheme

1490. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cash and Carry Scheme announced by Coal India Ltd. has put small consumers into difficulties and consequently the coal supply is also not available adequately to the foundries in India;

(b) whether Government have amended Coal Control Order recently to protect the interests of the ordinary consumers; and

(c) whether Government propose to remove the 'Cash and Carry' scheme in view of these difficulties.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c) Coal India Limited have introduced the system of advance payments towards sale of coal better known as "Cash and Carry" system w.e.f. 1-10-91. This system has been made applicable only to the power sector. With regard to the small cosumers, CIL are following the existing system. There is no proposal to remove the "Cash and Carry" system applicable to power sector.

Ministry of Coal have recently issued three orders/notifications connected with the Colliery Control Order. These changes are expected to curb the tendency by certain consumers to divert the quota of coal allotted to them and thus improve the availability of coal to the genuine consumers.

Out-standing dues against State Electricity Boards

1491. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some State Electricity Boards owe a sum of Rs. 1809 crore to the Coal India Limited;

(b) if so, the names of such State Electricity Boards alongwith the amount outstandings against each of them; and